

CALIFORNIA AREA

The California Area has three grant projects. The Round Valley Health Center is developing a major telehealth and telemedicine service delivery plan with funding from two entities. The Cabazon Band of Mission Indians operates a telehealth school project with a planned telemedicine expansion. The California Endowment will fund up to 18 tribal projects for diabetic retinopathy screening through the California Telehealth and Telemedicine Center.

1. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians

Area Office	California Area
Indian Facility	Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
Primary Use	Telehealth, telemedicine available
Use Status	New Project
Facility Contact	Dr. William Whiteley, Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, 84245 Indio Springs Drive, Indio, CA 92201, Phone 760- 345-9342, Fax 760-345-9342
Grantee	Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
Funding	RUS - FY 99 - \$245,000
Grant Contact	See Facility Contact
Summary	The Cabazon Band of Mission Indians delayed grant implementation until the tribe completed its IHS compact arrangement. Plans are underway to implement an Internet-based videoconferencing system that supports telehealth and medical consultation through the Indio Emergency Medical Group's to the local school system and community.

The Cabazon Band of Mission Indians is planning as distance learning capabilities, health care education and medical services delivery with a prime goal of distance learning at 25 end user sites. Project partners are the Unified School District, Desert Sands Unified School District, University of California San Diego Medical Center, Santa Rosa del Valle Medical Group and Valley Partnership. Project beneficiaries will include approximately 11,500 secondary and elementary school students and 3,897 patients at the Indio, Coachella, and San Diego medical clinics will benefit from this project. The system will use internet-based videoconferencing system that supports medical consultation through the Indio Emergency Medical Group's link with two outlying rural clinics. After the system is operational, an expanded link to the Medical Center at the University of California, San Diego

2. California TeleHealth & Telemedicine Center (CTTC)

Area Office	California Area
Indian Facility	California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB)
Primary Use	Telemedicine (Ophthalmology)
Use Status	New Project
Facility Contact	Wayne Isaacs, Information Systems Coordinator California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB) 1451 River Park Drive Suite 220, Sacramento, CA 95815 Phone 916-929-9761, Fax 916-929-7246 E-mail <w.issacs@mail.ihs.gov>
Grantee	California Telehealth & Telemedicine Center
Funding	Up to 18 tribes (\$60,000 estimate per tribe)
Grant Contact	Heather Bernikoff, Project Coordinator, California Telehealth & Telemedicine Center, 1215 K Street, Suite 800, Sacramento, CA 95814 Phone 916-552-7687, Fax 916-552-7588 E-mail <hbernikoff@calhealth.org>
Summary	The California Rural Indian Health Board is technically assisting the California Telehealth & Telemedicine Center to encourage Indian organizations to apply for up to 18 diabetic teleophthalmology grants.

The California Telehealth & Telemedicine Center, through generous funding from The California Endowment, will partner with the California Rural Indian Health Board (CRIHB) to develop and implement a diabetic teleophthalmology grant program. Up to 18 grants will be awarded over two years. CRIHB will staff and organize seven regional meetings throughout the state for Tribal Health and Urban Health Program representatives to become familiar with the program. Only Indian Health Programs with a Title V Compact, PL 638 Contract or compacts with the Indian Health Service and certification as a Medi-Cal provider are eligible to apply.

CRIHB will also help recruit a six-person Advisory Committee from organizations involved in providing health services to the American Indians in California. Year One grant proposals are due January 2001 with awards by February. Hardware grant equipment includes a Pentium III computer workstation, video capture card, and a mobile workstation stand. Peripheral equipment includes an auto-chart projector, screen mirror

set, a pinhole occluder, and Tenopen XL, non-mydratic fundus camera, exam chair, and AIT mobile tail for non-mydratic camera. Software to capture images, videoconferencing equipment, and encounter documentation will be provided along with telecommunications.

The Los Angeles Eye Institute (LAEI) at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science will provide clinical and technical teams to sites receiving grants. Other technical assistance includes infrastructure and delivery system assessment, clinical protocol development, implementation, and quality control of clinical data, and medical service delivery. The LAEI program representative is Dr. Charles Flower, who operates teleophthalmology programs in large urban public housing developments, by training community members to conduct the eye exams, which are reviewed by experts under a store and forward system.

3. Round Valley Indian Health Center

Area Office	California Area
Indian Facility	Round Valley Indian Health Center
Primary Use	Telemedicine & Telehealth
Use Status	New Project
Facility Contact	Todd Gallardo, Interim Director, Telemedicine & Telehealth, Round Valley Health Center, Corner of Highway 162 & Biggar Lane, Covelo, CA 95428 Phone 707-983-6404, Fax 707-983-6184 E-mail <allardo_t@hotmail.com>
Grantee	Round Valley Indian Health Center
Funding	TOP - FY 00 - \$140,000 California Telehealth & Telemedicine Center, 2000, \$78,000
Grant Contact	See Facility Contact
Summary	The Round Valley Indian Health Center is managing two new grants for the combined use of telemedicine and telehealth.

The Round Valley Indian Center is a 638-IHS contract care facility and a nonprofit organization that serves an area population of 2,800, of which 1,029 are Native Americans. The reservation base is 1,700 acres in the Valley, plus 32,000 acres of

surrounding mountainous terrain. Outside patient transport care can be as far as four to eight hours away.

Besides the Department of Commerce TOP Grant, Round Valley has funding from the California Center for Telemedicine and Telehealth and Telemedicine for network design to establish telemedicine and telehealth services. CTTC will provide matching contribution for a T1 line, which may end-up as added bandwidth to the existing fractional T1 line since the phone company lacks capacity for a regular T1 line. The fractional T1 uses a frame relay network for health related data and Internet access and was obtained through the IHS/FTS2000 contract with GTE (now Verizon).

The Round Valley network will be a collaborative effort among all the major community health-related services. The projects will set-up videoconferencing capability at three sites. Learning kiosks, through a line-of-sight wireless system, will connect the Health Clinic, the Parenting Center, and the Indian Education Center. The Indian Health Center will be linked to outside specialists. As October 2000, Round Valley is gathering information about equipment and planning a rollout strategy that effectively uses the resources available under the two grants and local programming funds. Telemedicine applications have not been selected, though a team has identified their needs as mental health, diabetic, and obstetric care. Each patient will receive an e-mail account to interact with on-line providers, receive newsletters and ask questions.